

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A method for operating an internal combustion engine, comprising:
 - injecting a fuel into a combustion chamber via an injector that includes a drivable piezo-actuator;
 - generating a setpoint value for driving the piezo-actuator;
 - determining a setpoint charge quantity from the setpoint value;
 - determining an actual charge quantity supplied to the piezo-actuator;
 - combining the setpoint charge quantity and the actual charge quantity to produce a combined result; and
 - causing the combined result to act upon a drive circuit of the piezo-actuator.
2. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising:
 - determining a current for driving the piezo-actuator from the setpoint charge quantity;and
 - causing the combined result to act upon the current.
3. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 2, further comprising:
 - applying the setpoint charge quantity to a preset activation time.
4. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 3, further comprising:
 - determining the actual charge quantity at an end of the preset activation time.
5. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising:
 - causing a PI controller to influence the combined result.
6. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein:
 - the method is used to open the injector.
7. (Currently Amended) A The method for operating an internal combustion engine, as recited in Claim 1, further comprising:
 - injecting a fuel into a combustion chamber via an injector that includes a drivable piezo-actuator;
 - generating a setpoint value for driving the piezo-actuator;
 - determining a setpoint charge quantity from the setpoint value;

determining an actual charge quantity supplied to the piezo-actuator;
combining the setpoint charge quantity and the actual charge quantity to produce a combined result;

causing the combined result to act upon a drive circuit of the piezo-actuator;
generating a setpoint voltage for driving the piezo-actuator;
determining an actual voltage present at the piezo-actuator;
combining the setpoint voltage and the actual voltage to produce a second combined result; and
causing the second combined result to act upon the drive circuit of the piezo-actuator.

8. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 7, further comprising:

determining a second setpoint charge quantity;
determining a second current for driving the piezo-actuator from the second setpoint charge quantity; and
causing the second combined result to act upon the second current.

9. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 8, further comprising:

applying the second setpoint charge quantity to a preset deactivation time.

10. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 9, further comprising:

determining the actual voltage at an end of the deactivation time.

11. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 7, further comprising:

causing the PI controller to influence the second combined result.

12. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 7, wherein:

the method is used to close the injector.

13. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 12, further comprising:

one of discharging and short-circuiting the piezo-actuator via a resistor.

14. (Canceled).

15. (Original) A memory medium on which is stored a computer program that is programmed to perform the following:

injecting a fuel into a combustion chamber via an injector that includes a drivable piezo-actuator;

generating a setpoint value for driving the piezo-actuator;

determining a setpoint charge quantity from the setpoint value;

determining an actual charge quantity supplied to the piezo-actuator;

combining the setpoint charge quantity and the actual charge quantity to produce a combined result; and

causing the combined result to act upon a drive circuit of the piezo-actuator.

16. (Original) A control and/or regulating unit capable of causing the following to be performed:

injecting a fuel into a combustion chamber via an injector that includes a drivable piezo-actuator;

generating a setpoint value for driving the piezo-actuator;

determining a setpoint charge quantity from the setpoint value;

determining an actual charge quantity supplied to the piezo-actuator;

combining the setpoint charge quantity and the actual charge quantity to produce a combined result; and

causing the combined result to act upon a drive circuit of the piezo-actuator.

17. (Original) An internal combustion engine, comprising:

a control and/or regulating unit capable of causing the following to be performed:

injecting a fuel into a combustion chamber via an injector that includes a drivable piezo-actuator;

generating a setpoint value for driving the piezo-actuator;

determining a setpoint charge quantity from the setpoint value;

determining an actual charge quantity supplied to the piezo-actuator;

combining the setpoint charge quantity and the actual charge quantity to produce a combined result; and

causing the combined result to act upon a drive circuit of the piezo-actuator.